

**HAMPTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM
MINUTES
November 8, 2004 7:00 PM**

PRESENT: William H. Sullivan, Chairman, Virginia Bridle-Russell,
James Workman, Cliff Pratt, Rick Griffin
James Barrington, Town Manager
Karen Anderson, Administrative Assistant

I. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Superintendent Jim Gaylord led the audience in the flag salute.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mrs. Bridle-Russell announced that Thursday, November 11th is the Annual Chili Fest at LaBec Rouge, to benefit the local Firefighters Toy Bank.

Veteran's Day

Mr. Pratt reminded the public that Veteran's Day is Thursday, November 11th and urged residents to take the time to thank a veteran that has served for the country and remember those that are fighting today. There will be a ceremony at 8:00 AM at the Marine Memorial and at 11:00 AM at the Hampton Cemetery.

Marine Corps Anniversary

The Board noted that Wednesday, November 10, 2004 marks the 229th anniversary of the United States Marine Corps.

III. APPOINTMENTS

Winnacunnet Building Permit Waiver Request

Mr. James Gaylord, Superintendent of Schools requested that the Board of Selectmen waive the building permit fee for the renovation of the high school. Mr. Gaylord explained that when the project budget was established, consideration was given to Hampton for the use of the facilities and lessened traffic on the roads as a result of the improved traffic flow. Mr. Gaylord said that if the Board is not in agreement with waiving the fee, he would like to suggest that the Board of Selectmen establish a building permit fee of \$35,000 to account for the required inspections that will be performed during the building project.

Mr. Gaylord said that he believes he has helped to develop an excellent working relationship with the Town. He pointed out that if the fee is higher than the \$35,000 that was budgeted for permitting fees, the difference is less than can be given to the children in the form of the building or furnishings.

Mr. Pratt asked what the fee would be normally. Mr. Barrington said that the permit fee for the current construction on the gymnasium is \$29,000 with the total fee for the project estimated at \$110,000. Mr. Pratt asked how much labor is involved in this for the town. Mr. Barrington said that the Building Inspectors will be looking at the construction on a regular basis, but he hasn't spoken directly with Mr. Schultz on the estimated number of visits. Mr. Workman said that before he would be agreeable to reducing the fee, he would want to know what the cost to Hampton would be for the actual inspections. Mr. Workman said that Hampton should not carry the permit fee expense alone. Mrs. Bridle said that out of the \$110,000, 48% would be paid by Hampton, and by accepting \$35,000 the Board would be excusing about \$15,000. Mrs. Bridle said that Hampton's 48% all comes out of the same pocket and Hampton residents are allowed to use the auditorium at no cost.

Mr. Sullivan reminded the Board that the Board of Selectmen requested assistance from the Winnacunnet School Board last year in regard to funding the School Resource Officer when the Special Revenue Fund failed for the police details. Mr. Gaylord said that the SRO will be included in the WHS budget this year.

Mr. Pratt said that if Mr. Barrington feels that the \$35,000 would cover the town's expenses on enforcing the codes he would be in favor of the reduction in fee. Mr. Barrington said that he will speak with Mr. Schultz about his costs and will report back to the Board.

The Board agreed to authorize the release of the building permit pending the decision on the payment amount.

III. OLD BUSINESS

Town Manager's Report

Annual Conference

Mr. Barrington noted that several staff members spent two days last week at the Annual New Hampshire Municipal conference and enjoyed some interesting speakers in regard to upcoming legislation and trends that were developing in the world today.

Ocean Boulevard

Mr. Barrington reported that he has received a letter from Mr. Mike Burladge, concerning the exchange of Ashworth Avenue for Ocean Boulevard. Representative O'Neil has asked if a Legislative Bill should be placed for this. Mr. Barrington said that a warrant article would also be required.

Precinct/Town Exchange

Mr. Barrington reported that the Precinct Commissioners have indicated that they would be interested in making an exchange in land with the town; the town would be the owner of the current fire station and precinct garage in exchange for the Ashworth Avenue parking lot. Mr. Barrington said that this is something that the Board will want to talk about some of the details. He noted that the exchange would provide a spot for the new fire station and relieve the selectmen of the agreement made with the commissioners to have a warrant article by 2005 for a new fire station. The Precinct Commissioner's would have the location for their proposed parking garage.

Mr. Pratt asked if the exchange of land has to go before the town meeting. Mr. Barrington said that he believes the town can use the RSA 41:14-a process, although the precinct would have to bring it to their town meeting. Mr. Pratt said that he thinks it would be best for both parties to go to town meeting. Mr. Sullivan asked if the Town Manager has talked with Chief Lipe about this. Mr. Barrington said that he briefly discussed it with Chief Lipe and he is willing to go with whatever the Board recommends. It was important to remember that the exchange would not improve the condition of the building, and it clearly needs to be replaced.

Town Clock

Mr. Griffin asked about the town clock and what was going to happen to it. Mr. Barrington said that he had heard that Mr. Webber was under the impression that the town was going to deliver the clock to his location; while the town and the minutes noted that Mr. Webber had indicated that he was going to pick it up. Mr. Barrington will follow up with Mr. Webber on that. The clock is still in the basement.

Truck Parking

Mr. Griffin said that he understands that there are three trucks that are regularly parking on Ocean Boulevard at various locations. Mr. Barrington said that he has looked at that and the trucks are parking on State property. If the Board would like he can investigate further to determine if the town can do anything. Mr. Pratt said that it is State property and the matter should be turned over to the State. Mr. Griffin said that it appears that the trucks are involved with a business that is being operated out of a residential condo in that location.

12 Shirley Terrace

Mr. Barrington reported to the Board that the previous owners of 12 Shirley Terrace have requested an extension for the closing of the sale of that property to November 10, 2004. The second highest bidder was notified of the default and has stated that they are not interested at this time, in that property. The consensus of the Board was if the prior owners do not close on as scheduled on November 10, 2004 the Town Manager is authorized to proceed with a sealed bid process to sell the property to someone other than the prior owners.

Mechanized Packers

Mrs. Bridle-Russell told the Town Manager that she has been talking with several Public Works employees as well as vendors of the mechanized packers and feels that there are some concerns with the use of that type of packer in Hampton. She added that if the packer breaks down, one of the regular packers would have to complete that route, requiring the town employees to lift the larger, specialized barrels by hand. Mrs. Bridle-Russell also said that due to the size of the truck, it will be useful only on limited parts of the Town, which does not enable that packer to be used as a replacement for one of the regular packers if one breaks down. Mrs. Bridle-Russell said that after this additional information she has heard, she would like to recommend the purchase of a regular packer rather than the mechanized packer. She requested that Mr. Hangen give the Board information regarding communities where the packer has been successful, because there are other areas where they have not been successful.

Mr. Barrington said he did not know who at public works she spoke with. Mrs. Bridle-Russell said she spoke with many employees at various levels, and found only two that were in favor of it. Mr. Barrington said that some of the assertions were inaccurate; the town currently has 5 packers. Three that are used with two in reserve, so if a front-line vehicle breaks down there is a replacement. Mr. Barrington said that the statement that the mechanical packer is not effective in certain parts of town is correct, some of the beach streets are too narrow for the larger packer, but that is a small portion of the town. Mr. Barrington said that the mechanized system has been successful in Goffstown. Mr. Barrington said that the system will allow trash collection to be done much faster, with one person, instead of 2 or 3 that we generally use. In addition to saving on labor it will ultimately reduce worker's compensation rates and injury payments. Mr. Barrington acknowledged that mechanical equipment does break down more frequently, but it is no more of an issue than with the other trucks we operate. Mrs. Bridle-Russell said that she wants to make sure that all aspects are looked at.

IV. NEW BUSINESSGolden Corridor Easements

Mr. Barrington explained that there are a few easements associated with the Golden Corridor project that the Planning Board has recommended that the Town accept, utilizing the RSA 41:14-a process. The schedule for hearings that would meet the requirements would be hearings on November 22nd and December 6th with a vote on December 20, which is the third Monday, generally an off-camera meeting when held.

Mr. Pratt MOTIONED that the Board of Selectmen schedule public hearings on November 22nd and December 6th with a vote on December 20 for the acceptance of easements associated with the Golden Corridor development.

Mr. Griffin SECONDED

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

Non-Public Session

Mr. Pratt MOTIONED that the Board of Selectmen meet in a non-public for personnel at the conclusion of the public meeting under RSA 91-A: 3 II (a).

Mrs. Bridle-Russell SECONDED

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

Bond Counsel

Mrs. Bridle-Russell asked if the Treasurer is being included in the meetings with bond counsels. Mr. Barrington said that she has not been involved in that process. Mr. Barrington said that she has indicated that she was not concerned with that part of the bond process.

Budget Committee Report

Mrs. Bridle-Russell told the Board of Selectmen that the Budget Committee has requested a vehicle inventory from all departments prior to their budget being heard. They have also requested the pending potential costs of litigation.

Mr. Sullivan asked that the Town Manager have for the Board, before the end of the year, the facts and figures, not guesses, on what the impact would be if there is a default budget in 2005. Mr. Sullivan said that there was an article on the ballot in Maine, Proposition #1, which would have rolled property back to 1997 level and he believes that was soundly defeated because of good, factual information that was provided. Mrs. Bridle said that the breakdown should also include what actually makes up a default budget. Mr. Barrington said that the last few years the Finance Director has provided a spreadsheet on the recommended default budget. Ultimately, it is the Board of Selectmen that sets the default budget within the statutory requirements.

Community Action

Mrs. Bridle noted that the funding request for Community Action was restored to the 2004 level by the Budget Committee last week. She noted that Mrs. Mueller-Campbell and the new Executive Director have been trying to talk with the Town Manager. The increase to the 2004 level is based on quarterly meetings to be held with them, Mrs. Cocklin, Mrs. Anderson, Mr. Barrington, and Mrs. Bridle.

IV. MINUTES

The minutes of October 25, 2004 and November 1, 2004 were accepted as written.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Pool Table Permits
2. Dance Hall Permit
3. Authorization for \$2 Million TAN

Mr. Pratt MOTIONED that the consent agenda be approved.

Mr. Griffin SECONDED

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Pratt MOTIONED that the public meeting be adjourned. (7:48 PM)

Mr. Workman SECONDED

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

Chairman